
REMARKS**1. General remarks**

Applicant has rewritten the independent claim 1 to define the invention more particularly and distinctively so as to overcome the rejections and define the invention patentably over the prior art. Applicant also further developed his arguments. Revised claims and arguments clearly show that Applicant's invention (thereafter, "Kaptelinin") is patentable over US Patent application US2003/0135565 A1 to Estrada (thereafter, "Estrada").

2. Response to arguments

Office action mailed on May 15, 2008 (thereafter, OA) rejects claim 1, saying that

"the claim only recites a "user-performed action" and "a user-action" but does not explicitly recite the action is performed by a specific user, one user, or a plurality of users". (OA, 13: 16-18)

and

"Applicant's arguments that for Kaptelinin "the user who performs a user-action and the user whose workspace changes as a result of that user-action, is one and the same person" is not supported by the language of the claim, since the claim does not recite any user at all" (OA, 14:4-7)

Applicant respectfully disagrees. On the contrary, claim 1 includes the following introductory text (unfortunately, omitted in OA, pages 3-4) (highlight added) indicating that the claim discloses an invention intended for a **single user**, as opposed to Estrada's invention, intended for supporting activities between two or more individuals (Estrada, [0005]):

"A method providing low-overhead integrated support for project information management for a **user** of a computer system, comprising the method steps of:..."

Additionally, the claim includes the following text:

"whereby an organization and accumulation of information objects related to individual projects of **the user** is accomplished in the computer system, thus enabling **the user** to directly access project-related information objects when work on a project is resumed after an intermission."

Therefore, the claim explicitly states that the method according to the present invention provides support for one user (a user). It is inherently included that the user who performs a user-action and the user whose workspace changes as a result of that user-action, is one and the same person.

Additionally, the fact that the present invention is intended to be used by one user, not a plurality of users, is also documented by the title of the invention (supporting "personal" rather than "collaborative" project management), its abstract, and the description of preferred embodiments (see, e.g., Fig. 2, Fig. 4-7 of the patent application).

To make the single-user reference of the claim more distinct, applicant has amended claim 1.

Also, OA states that "Estrada clearly teaches a step of automatically link (i.e., save) a file "i.e., "Vision statement.doc") with a project (i.e, Xcorp plan) in response to an user perform action (i.e., "user B sends an email message")" (OA, 14: 2-4)

However, according to Estrada, if a resource is automatically linked to a project, **there must be a user who had manually linked the resource to the project in the first place**. The linking is automatically **replicated** in workspaces of other users. Each of the information objects automatically linked to a project has to be initially manually assigned to the project by **some** user. For instance, user A may send an email message M that he or she addresses to project P, along with attachment file F. Thus *user A manually links* the message M and the attachment file F to project P (by entering or selecting project's email address and selecting a file to be attached to the message send to project's email address). When the email sent by user A to project P is received by other

users, M and F may be automatically linked (saved) to project P in their workspaces. However, such an automatic linking is only possible because user A did the linking manually in the first place.

3. Overcoming claim rejection – 35 USC § 102

Claims 1-34 of the present invention were rejected by Examiner as being anticipated by Estrada (US Patent application US2003/0135565 A1). Applicant respectfully disagrees with that conclusion for the following reasons.

3.1. AS PER CLAIM 1.

3.1.1. Amended claim 1.

An amended Claim 1 of the present invention reads as follows:

Claim 1. A method providing low-overhead integrated support for project information management for a user of a computer system, comprising the method steps of:

creating a memory storage containing individual descriptions of each project listed in a group of projects of a user, each individual description comprising one or more properties, said properties selected from a group consisting of at least: a name, deadline, color, icon, status, importance, and urgency; said memory storage also containing descriptions of information objects related to each project listed in said group of projects; said information objects selected from a group consisting of at least: computer files and folders, computer applications, electronic documents and their parts, web pages, computer network addresses, electronic messages, computer network transmissions, computer network connections, computer device descriptions, computer preferences and settings, user identities, user profiles and accounts, computer system-generated reports and collections, user interface components, virtual reality objects, electronic images, computer models, and personal information management system entries;

selecting, through a user-performed action, one project of said group of user's projects as an active project;

detecting, through a first detecting means, an event generated by one of at least one computer application and at least one operating system when a user-action is carried out by the user with at least one information object, the user-action selected from a list consisting of at least: creating, deleting, activating, inactivating, selecting, deselecting, opening, closing, viewing, sending, downloading, uploading, accessing over network, sharing, archiving, printing out, playing, pausing, saving, copying, moving, modifying, or editing said at least one information object;

detecting, through a second detecting means, a project, which is active at the time when said event is generated;

detecting, through a third detecting means, whether at least one of the information objects described in said event is contained in a list of information objects related to said active project:

and if said at least one Information object described in said event is not contained in said list of information objects related to said active project, then adding a description of said at least one information object to said list of Information objects related to said active project;

viewing and editing lists of project-related Information objects;

opening an Information object from a list of project-related information objects;

whereby an organization and accumulation of information objects related to individual projects of the user is accomplished in the computer system, thus enabling the user to directly access project-related information objects when work on a project is resumed after an intermission.

3.1.2. Claim 1 is not anticipated by Estrada

Applicant submits that claim 1 is not anticipated by Estrada. The key subject matter of claim 1, which makes claim 1 patentable over Estrada, is as follows.

First, Kaptelinin's teaching of detecting events is not anticipated by Estrada. Kaptelinin teaches detecting a wide range of events **generated when a user-action with an Information object** is carried out by the user. For instance, when the user opens a

document, this event is detected by Kaptelinin. This teaching is different from Estrada's monitoring of **user's mailbox or the contents of a project folder**. For instance, when the user opens a document, this event is NOT detected by Estrada.

Second, Kaptelinin saves the user the effort of manually linking information objects to projects. Opened, saved, edited, etc., information objects are automatically linked to the currently active project of the user, the user does not have to link them manually. Estrada cannot do that. For Estrada, as mentioned above, there must be at least one user in the collaboration space who manually links an information object to a project. The linking will be then propagated to other users' workspaces. This feature appears to be useful. But, still, for Estrada each of the information objects has to be manually assigned to a project by a user.

For the above reasons (as well as arguments provided in the Remarks section of the previous Amendment C), Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 that discloses a method for supporting a single-user ("for a user of a computer system"), which, through a plurality of detecting means (e.g., "first detecting means", "second detecting means", "third detecting means") enables an organization and accumulation of information objects related to individual projects of the user, thus enabling the user to directly access project-related information objects when the work on a project is resumed after an intermission, is not anticipated by Estrada.

3.2 AS PER CLAIMS 2- 27

The claims incorporate all the subject matter of claim 1 and adds additional subject matter, which makes them novel and patentable over prior art.

ADDITIONALLY:

As per claim 2: As mentioned, Estrada – as opposed to Kaptelinin – fails to teach providing a user with a system that monitors events generated by user-actions of the user himself or herself. Rather, Estrada teaches a system that detects events

generated by other users. Accordingly, Estrada's interaction histories of a user, – as opposed to Kaptelinin -- do not contain descriptions of **events generated by the user himself or herself** (such as opening or editing documents). Therefore, Kaptelinin's and Estrada's interaction histories are different, which means that claim 2 is not anticipated by Estrada.

As per claim 16: Estrada's Fig 2 shows a dialog box, not a document. As opposed to Kaptelinin's project description document (claim 16), it cannot be saved, edited, and kept separately from the system taught by Estrada.

As per claims 7 and 26: The labels shown by Estrada ("Latest version", etc) do not constitute a ranking scale. It is not certain, for instance, whether "My thoughts" have a higher priority than "A few adjustments".

As per claim 18: Kaptelinin teaches restoring the original (before a project becomes inactive) state of the project. Kaptelinin makes sure the project space for a participant is the same as before a break. On the contrary, Estrada teaches auto-updating (0041, 0044), for instance by locating and updating workspaces of "out-of-sync" participants, that is, making sure a project space for such a participant is NOT the same as before a break, but is changed by receiving and adding recent resources.

AS PER CLAIMS 28-34. The claims recite an apparatus for performing a similar method as discussed in claims 1-27, and their rejections are overcome with the same arguments.

4. Conclusion

For all of the above reasons, applicant submits that the specification and claims are now in proper form, and that the claims all define patentably over the prior art. Therefore he submits that this application is now in condition for allowance, which action he respectfully solicits.

Kaptelinin

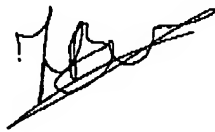
Amendment D

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5. Conditional request for constructive assistance

Applicant has amended the claims of this application so that they are proper, definite, and define novel structure, which is also unobvious. If, for any reason, this application is not believed to be in full condition for allowance, applicant respectfully requests the constructive assistance and suggestions of the Examiner pursuant to MPEP § 706.03(d) and § 707.07(j) in order that the undersigned can place this application in allowable condition as soon as possible and without the need for further proceedings.

Very respectfully,



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Date: July 18, 2008

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